



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Natural Heritage Program

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*Quercus oglethorpensis* Duncan  
**Oglethorpe's Oak**

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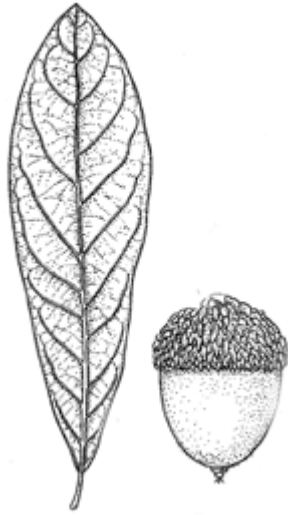


**Identification:** Deciduous trees to 18 m (or even 25 m) tall. Bark of first-year twigs brown, reddish- or purpleish-tinged, that of older twigs and branches grayish, on older trunks light gray and broken into thin, loosely appressed scales. Leaves 5-15 cm long, 1.5-4.5 cm broad, narrowly elliptic or elliptic-oblong to somewhat obovate, some leaves tending to be falcate, entire marginally (or on vigorous shoots, undulate to shallowly sinuate distally), rounded to short-cuneate basally, obtuse or broadly acute apically, without bristle-tips; upper surfaces green and sparsely stellate, lower tawny with evenly distributed, yellow, stellate hairs, somewhat velvety to the touch. Cups saucerlike or shallowly bowllike, enclosing about 1/3 of the acorn; scales small, thinnish, appressed, tips blunt, appressed-pubescent and short ciliate. Acorns maturing in one season, oval-ovooid, about 1 cm long, depressed at the summit and apiculate, nutshell exteriorly pubescent apically, glabrous within.

**Key ID characters:**

- Deciduous trees to 18 m in height.
- Bark light gray or whitish and scaly.
- Leaves 5-15 cm by 1.5-4.5 cm; narrowly elliptic or oblanceolate.
- Acorn cup turbinate.
- Acorn nut gray-brown, ovoid, about 1 cm long.

*Q.*  
*oglethorpensis*



*Q. oglethorpensis* from *The Flora of North America, Volume 3*.  
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**Habitat:** Moist calcareous forest.

**Taxonomic Comments:** This species is a member of the family Fagaceae. There are over 50 accepted taxa within the genus *Quercus* known to occur in LA. Many of these taxa are interspecific hybrids, as a large number of species are thought to hybridize.

**Status:**

Wetland: FAC+ - Facultative  
Global: G3 - Vulnerable  
State: S1 - Critically Imperiled



Calcareous Forest

**Range:** Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, and South Carolina.

**Soils:** Rich, heavy alluvial soils relatively impermeable to water (calcareous clays).

**Similar Species:** This species is considered to be easily recognizable. It is however somewhat possible that it could be confused with *Q. laurifolia*, a large tree with thick, coriaceous, semi-evergreen leaves 3-9 cm long and is much more common than *Q. oglethorpensis*.

**Reason for Rarity:** Habitat loss, and limited natural range. Believed to once have been a wider ranging species.

**Known Distribution in Louisiana:**

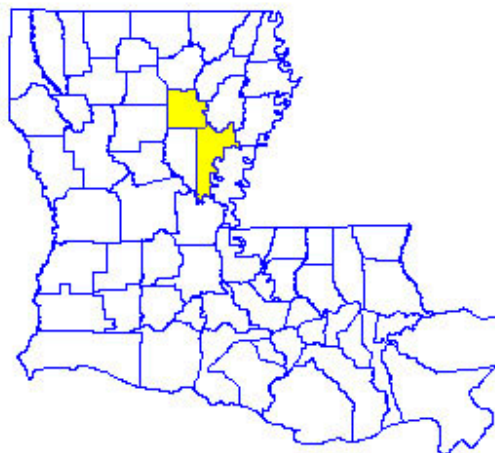
Caldwell, Catahoula

**Dates of Natural Heritage Program****Observations:**

1985, 1992, 1999(3)

**Best Time for Viewing this Species:**

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D



Distribution in Louisiana

**References :**

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